

Rural Roads Community Forum

March 25, 2014

Woodgrove HS



Supervisor Janet Clarke

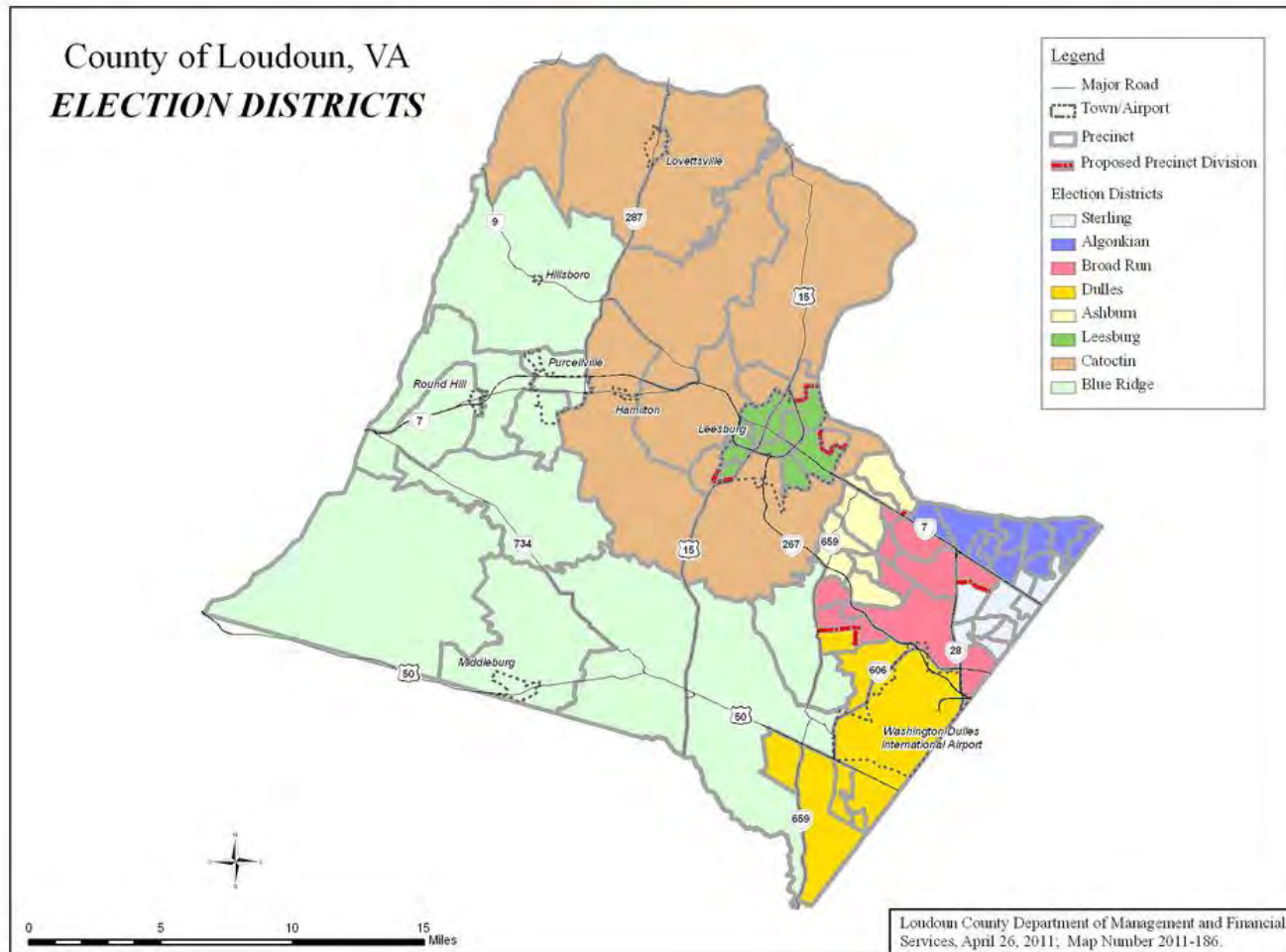
Blue Ridge District

Loudoun County Board of Supervisors

A Response To Calls for Help

Tonight and all the outreach and communications I have been conducting, is about gaining input from the community on maintenance of the roads we are receiving complaints about. The BRD has received approximately 200 email complaints on the condition of the roads, in addition to phone calls.

Blue Ridge District Map



Background

- Almost 300 miles of unpaved roads in Loudoun County
- The most unpaved road mileage in any one County in the State of Virginia
- Approximately 95 percent of the unpaved roads in Loudoun County are in the Blue Ridge and Catoctin Districts – with the majority in the Blue Ridge
- Constant complaints received in County offices regarding conditions of many of the unpaved roads

Background Continued

- Each office handles the roads in their respective districts due to the staff in a given office being responsible for working on items in their defined geographic area
- As complaints come into the County Supervisor's offices we notify VDOT and they visit the road to assess the treatment need and proceed with the resources they have available
- Due to the chronic deteriorating conditions of many rural roads Supervisor Higgins and I started meeting with VDOT and subsequently a rural roads community group concerned about certain roads

Background Continued - 3

- Our meetings resulted in VDOT constructing a document per our request, that defines the different types of maintenance available for communities to consider
- The Blue Ridge District office has been keeping track of the roads which we have received complaints on and performed outreach electronically to request further input to a draft list we initially provided
- For this legislative session I brought an item to the Board to send to the General Assembly requesting additional rural road maintenance funding of approximately \$1mil for Loudoun County – the item passed the Board level and now Delegate Minchew is carrying an appropriation request, we do not know will pass or not

Background - 4

- Some unpaved road residents want to have their roads and some only want better maintenance of their unpaved roads and to keep them gravel
- Some residents along the same given road disagree with each other
- All residents need to know that there is no money currently to accomplish either
- All residents should know that I would not support getting anything done on a road that the residents directly living off that road do not support

Challenges

- Large quantity of unpaved roads are in an unacceptable condition and becoming a chronic issue
- Maintenance for unpaved roads being depleted with an unknown status for additional funding
- Many, many severe status roads that need help now with not enough resources available
- Prioritizing the roads for repair and improvement with consensus

Funding Issue

- Out of the \$5.8mil allocated to Loudoun's rural paved and unpaved roads, they do not separate maintenance funding out between the two types
- Each area HQ's budget does NOT include snow removal or resurfacing or overlay
- They classify maintenance as repair or maintaining. It has to be a (certain type) of improvement to fall under another bucket of money, which most of the improvements do not

Current Time

- My staff, VDOT and I have all been out driving the roads separately and collectively to help assess the situation, as well as have received photos from residents
- We are working to refine our unpaved roads list by priority for repair, what is the recommended repair or improvement and approximately how much it will cost
- The final list will be ready within the next month, however we will always accept additions as they are reported to our office

By May

- By May we will send out the list mentioned and residents can provide feedback
- Once again there currently is no money to do anything, so the hope is that the state will appropriate more maintenance funding when they pass the budget, which could even go beyond May until we know

The Latest from VDOT

From: Shannon, Steven R. (VDOT) [

Sent: Friday, March 21, 2014 11:00 AM

To: Conner, Shevaun; Carey, Stacy; Donnelly, Katie

Cc: Bigdeli, Farid, P.E. (VDOT); Taori, Sunil (VDOT); Jenkins, Anthony W. (VDOT); Shannon, Steven R. (VDOT)

Subject: Gravel Roads

Ladies,

I've been driving the gravel roads for the past two days and I can say without a doubt that in most cases the citizens sending you their concerns are legitimate concerns. Today I drove Oatlands, Greggsville, Hughesville, and several others and although the crews are working on those roads today they will still require a lot of work over the next few months. The main issue is the lack of drainage and being extremely wet and I know we've discussed this over and over and I know you all understand what we are facing. Although I would personally agree with most of the citizens about the condition of the roads I can assure you (and them) that my crews are busy working the issues and have been all winter long. Unfortunately with 280 miles of gravel roads – most of them built on red clay with poor drainage – most of these issues will not go away until the roads are dry and we have a chance to work them. For what it's worth I truly thank you all for understanding what we are up against and not being afraid to convey that to your citizens. I'm hoping the meeting on Tuesday will provide the feedback we are all looking for. I know that Farid and Sunil are working hard with us on finding the right solutions and I thank all of you for your support, understanding and team work.

Steve Shannon
Residency Maintenance Administrator
VDOT, Loudoun County
41 Lawson Road
Leesburg, Virginia

Roads Reported in the Blue Ridge District

Paxson Rd., Woodtrail, Champe Ford Rd., Greengarden, Jeb Stuart, Snake Hill Rd., Newlin Mill Rd., Foggy Bottom Rd., Welbourne Rd., Greggsville Rd., Scotland Heights Rd., Purcellville Rd., Sagle Rd., Alder School Rd., Bell Rd., Williams Gap Road, Red Hill Rd., Lightridge Farm Rd., Peach Orchard Rd., Braddock Rd., Fleetwood Rd., Quaker Lane, Oatlands Rd., Polecat Hill Rd., Yellow Schoolhouse Rd., Shoemaker School Rd., Ashbury Church Rd., Nixon Rd., Telegraph Springs Rd, Bloomfield Rd., Furr Rd., Tail Race Rd., Colchester Rd, Beaverdam Bridge Rd., Round Up Place, Shelburne Glebe, Bolyn Rd., North Fork Rd., Elvan Rd., Forest Mills, Short Hill Rd.

VDOT's Options for Treatment of Unpaved Roads

Options for Treatment of Unpaved Roads

	Maintenance Program	Rural Rustic (RR) Program
Criteria	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Within existing or Prescriptive Right-of-Way - No realignment of the road - No upgrades to the facilities 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Within existing or Prescriptive Right-of-Way to the extent possible - Opportunity to work with the community to do more work, if needed - Traffic volumes must be less than 1,500 vehicles per day (vpd) - No known/planned developments that would increase traffic significantly - Minimum disturbance to roadside features, trees, side-slopes, and open ditches to the extent possible, or as the community desires - Must be designated Rural Rustic by Board of Supervisors (BoS) - Collaboratively selected by BoS and VDOT in the Secondary Six Year Plan
Standard	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Maintain road to be Safe and Passable - No set thresholds 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Offers most flexibility to hard-surface unpaved roads at lowest possible costs - No set design standard to be adhered to; No set plan requirements
Options	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Grade and add stone - Reshape crown - Dust control - Use millings when available and feasible - Clean/repair/replace drainage pipes - Re-establish/clear ditch lines 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Upgrading of sub-base along with various surface improvements as needed - Tar & Chip any length of the road with sub-base improvements - Cement Treated Aggregate (CTA) - Other innovative methods may be used; Asphalt surface also permitted if desired - May include minimal reconstruction; primarily to address identified specific issues - Full reconstruction is possible if alignment issues are present but would be to less than normal design standards - Associated drainage improvements and upgrades as necessary and feasible may be incorporated; incidental right-of-way acquisition, if needed, permitted
Funding	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Annual Maintenance Budget allocated to the VDOT District 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - CTR Formula – Unpaved Roads (>200 vpd) - Unpaved Secondary Fund (>50 vpd) - Revenue Sharing - Locality funding - Private funding
Outcome	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Short-term relief; Recurring issues - Reactionary – respond to the situation - Repetitive process often without ability to fix the underlying cause of the problems - Continued focus of maintenance resources on known hotspots - Maintain facilities in-kind; no upgrades 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Longer-term benefits; more reliable ride quality - Can be proactively programmed and funded - Underlying causes such as drainage, sub-base deterioration, roadside issues, etc. can be addressed more effectively - Reduces future maintenance burden on resources - Facilities may be upgraded and improved

Rural Road Maintenance Options

Regular Maintenance Programs

This is the program currently ongoing for all of the unpaved roads in the County

* Budget for all of Loudoun = \$5.8mil (Divided by 5 Areas)

- Salaries for maintenance crew
- Tree trimming
- Grading & adding stone
- Reshaping the crown
- Dust control
- Millings
- Clear/repair/replace drain pipes
- Re-establish ditch lines
- Mowing
- Patchwork & Pothole filing

* Is being needed more frequently with not enough resources to maintain the proper level of conditions.

Road Maintenance Options - RR Program

- 1) RR budget for all of Loudoun = \$42mil and decreasing
- 2) Only for a very limited number of roads
- 3) CTB formula is based on vpd (unpaved roads >200) and unpaved secondary roads (>50)
- 4) Rural Rustic Road Program (RR) = required vpd to be less than 1,500

* The only road in the Blue Ridge District for this program is Fleetwood Road (which is east of 15)

Questions?

Your input on the roads list is requested
– please return your comments to my
aide Shevaun Conner.

Call 1-800-for-road (367-7623) when you
have a road condition complaint
(VDOT)